



ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM BRIEF for the Alaska Health Care Commission

August 14, 2014



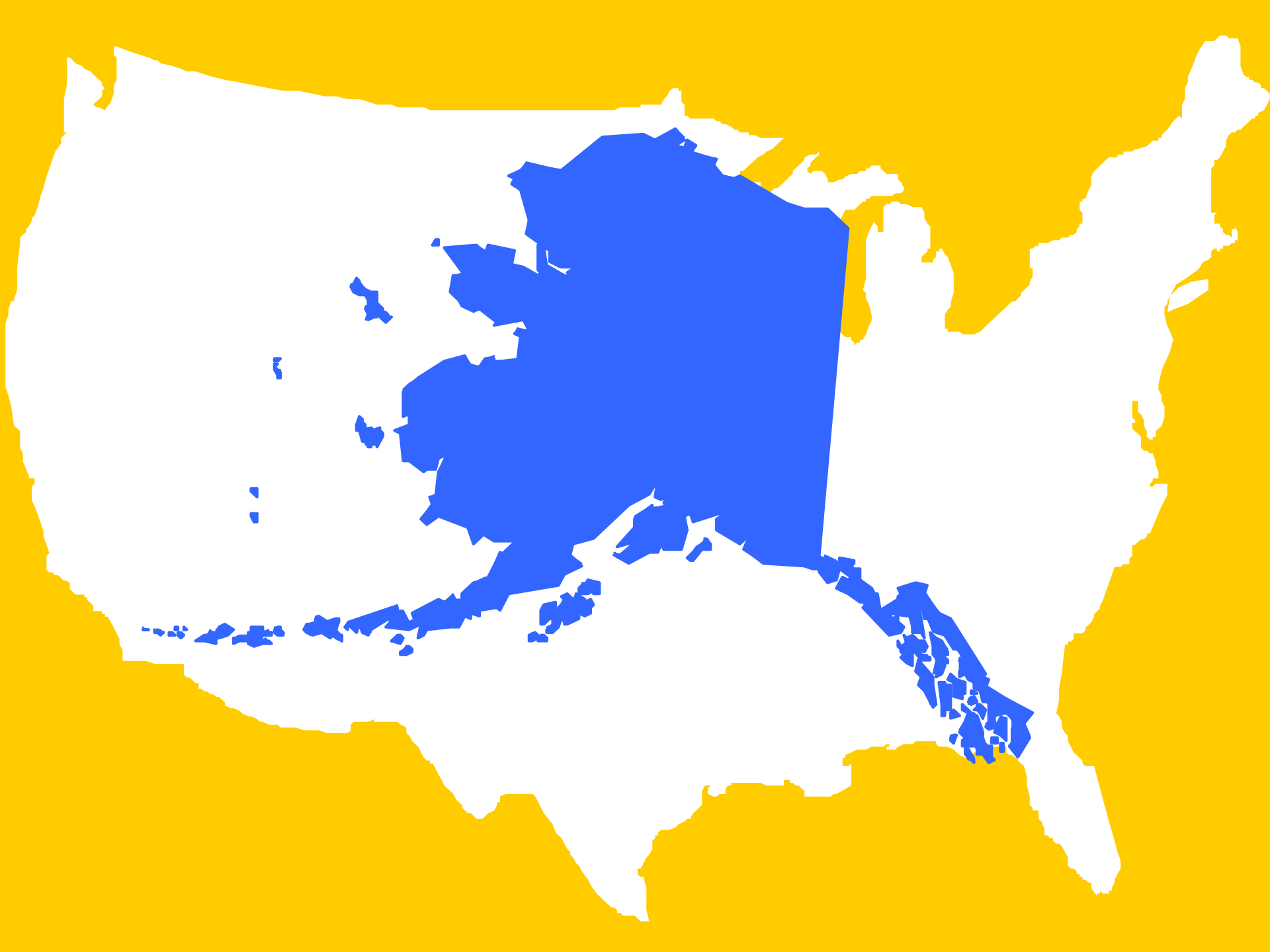
VA
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Topics

- **VA Current Issues**
- **Alaska Geography**
- **Alaska VA Journey**
- **Sites of Care**
- **Demographics**
- **Alaska VA – Scope of Clinical Services**
- **Rural Health**
- **Tribal Veterans Representative (TVR) Program**
- **Care Closer to Home**
- **Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership**

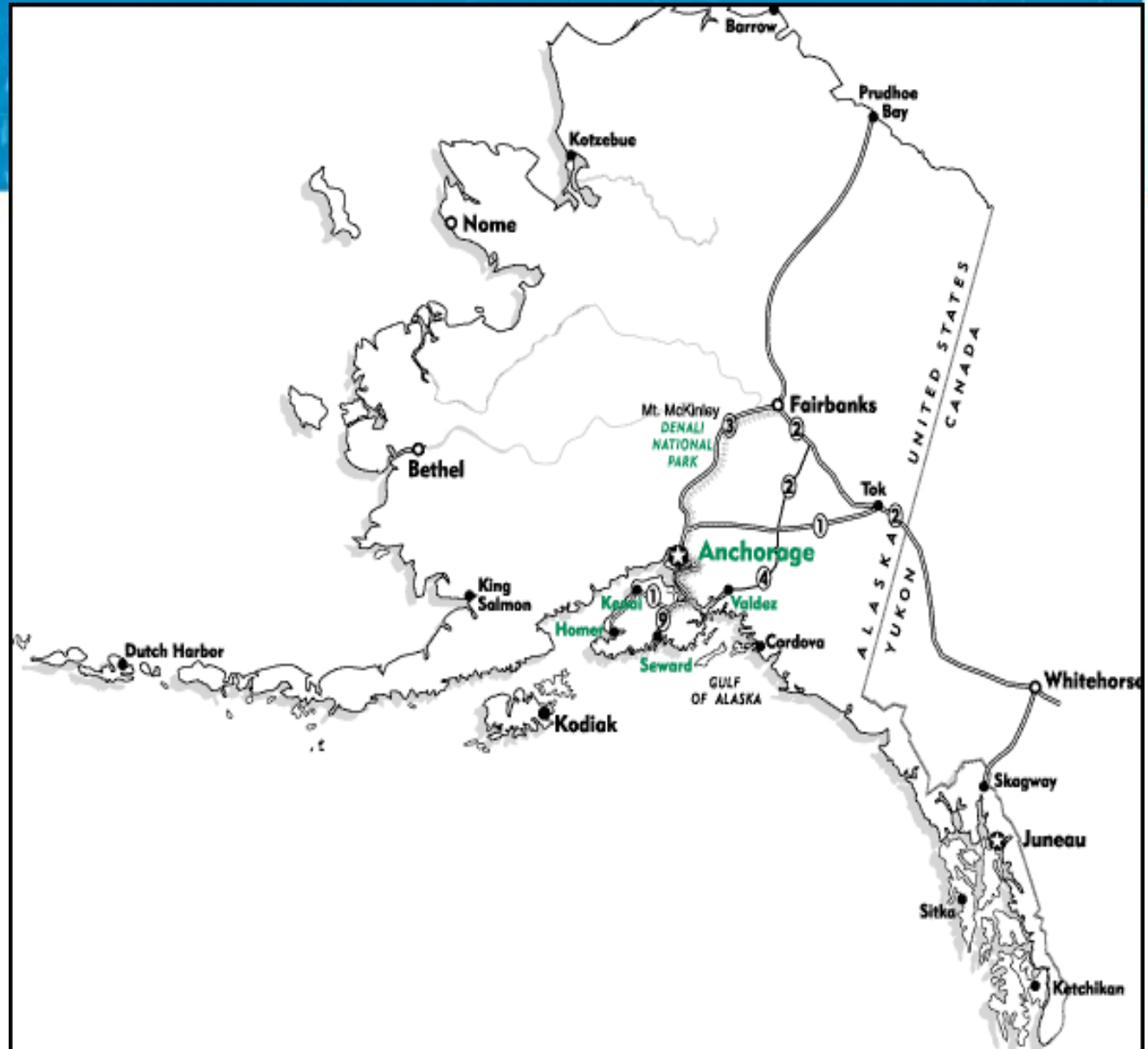
VA Current Issues

- **Secretary Robert A. McDonald - New VA Secretary**
- **VA Bill**
 - **Signed into law by President Obama on Thursday, 7 Aug 14**
 - **Total of \$16.3B**
 - **Veterans can seek care from non-VA health care providers if do not get an appt. within 30 days or if they live more than 40 miles from a VA medical center**
 - **Additional staffing and clinics**
 - **VA secretary is able to fire or demote senior executives for poor performance and misconduct**

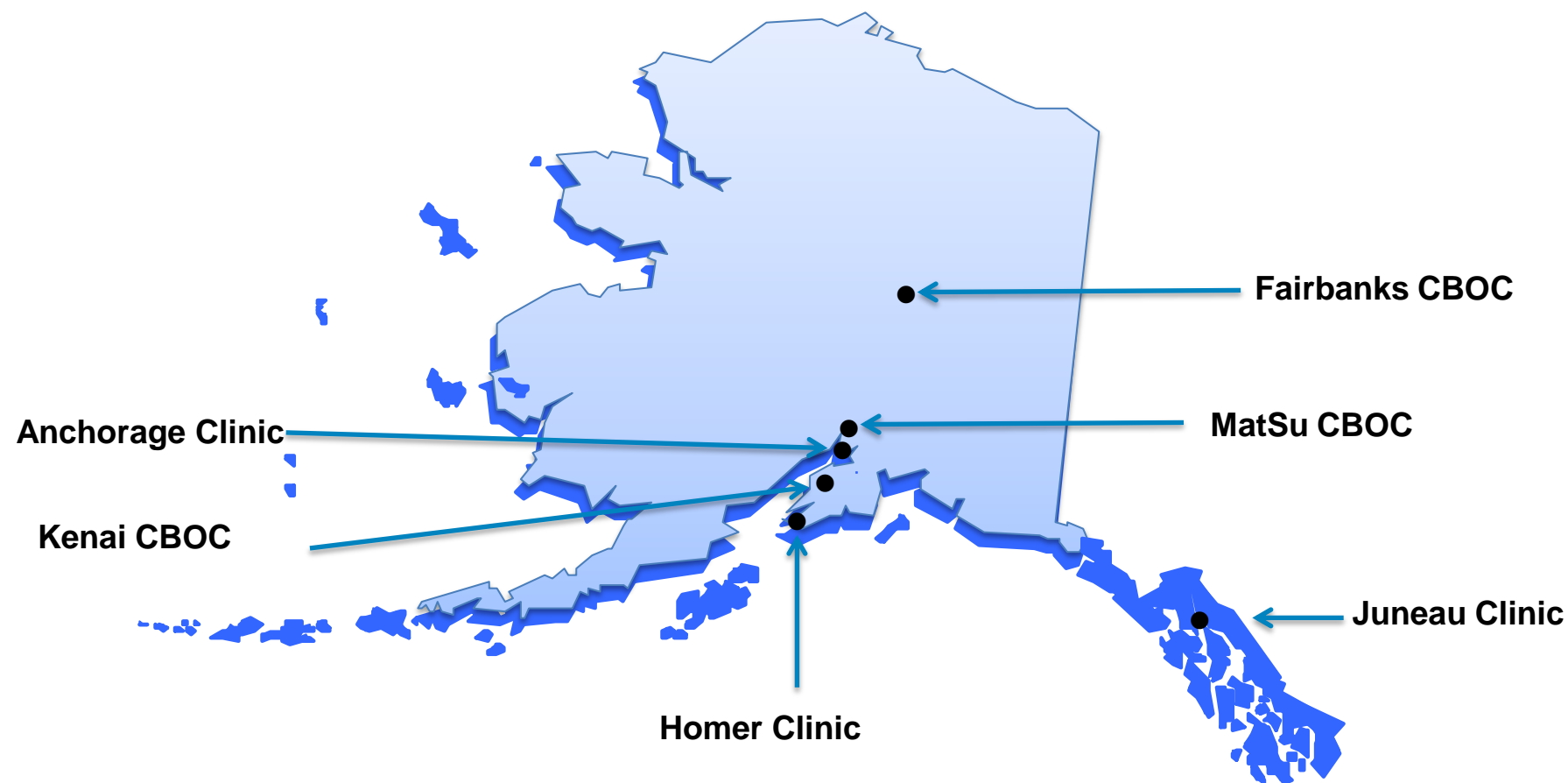


Distance from Anchorage

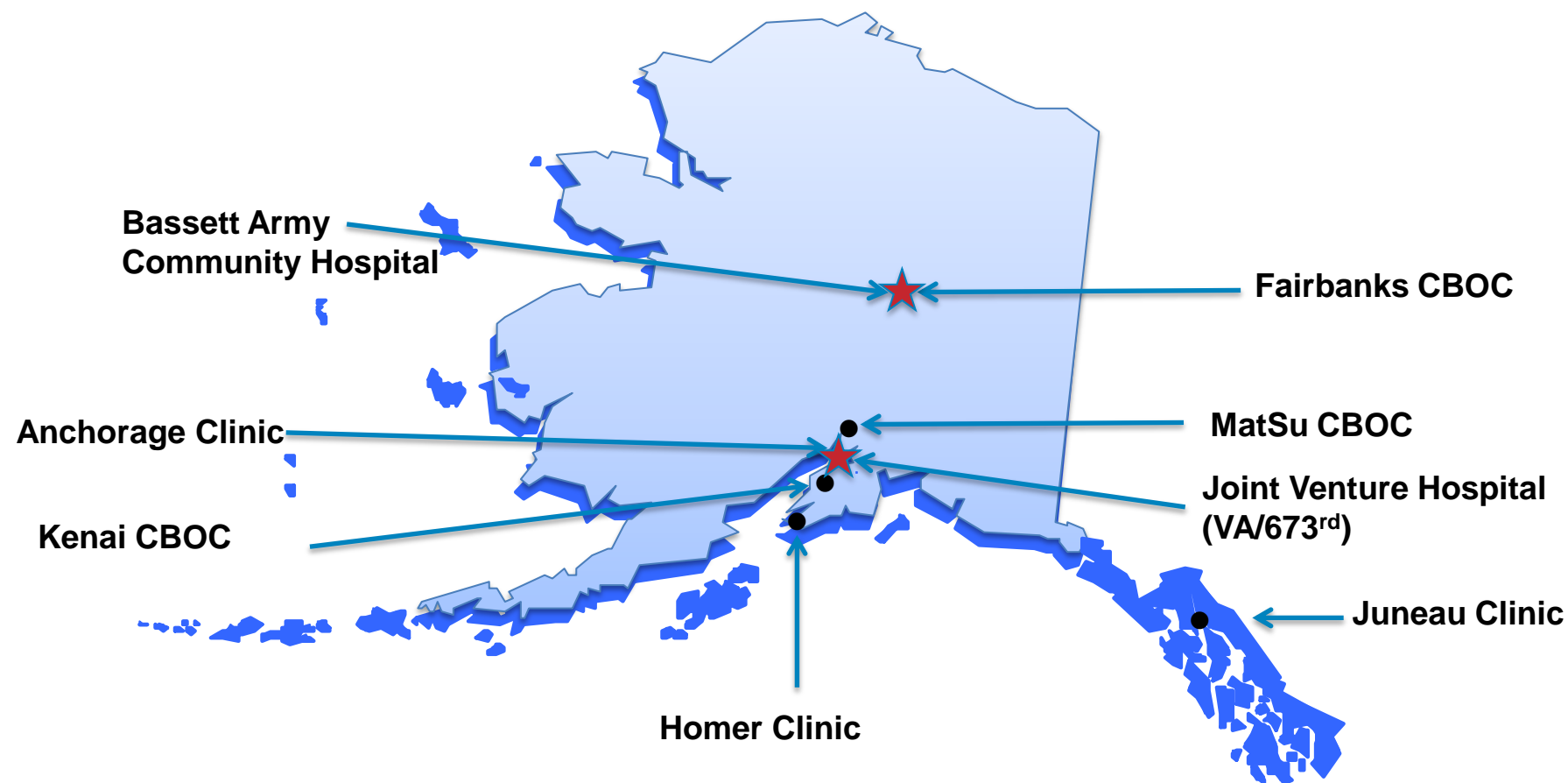
	Road	Air
Skagway	796	
Valdez	302	
Barrow		725
Prudhoe Bay		627
Sitka		589
Juneau		571
Kotzebue		549
Nome		540
Bethel		399
Kodiak		252
Haines	779	
Fairbanks	364	
Homer	223	
Glennallen	181	
Kenai	158	
Wasilla	44	
Palmer	42	



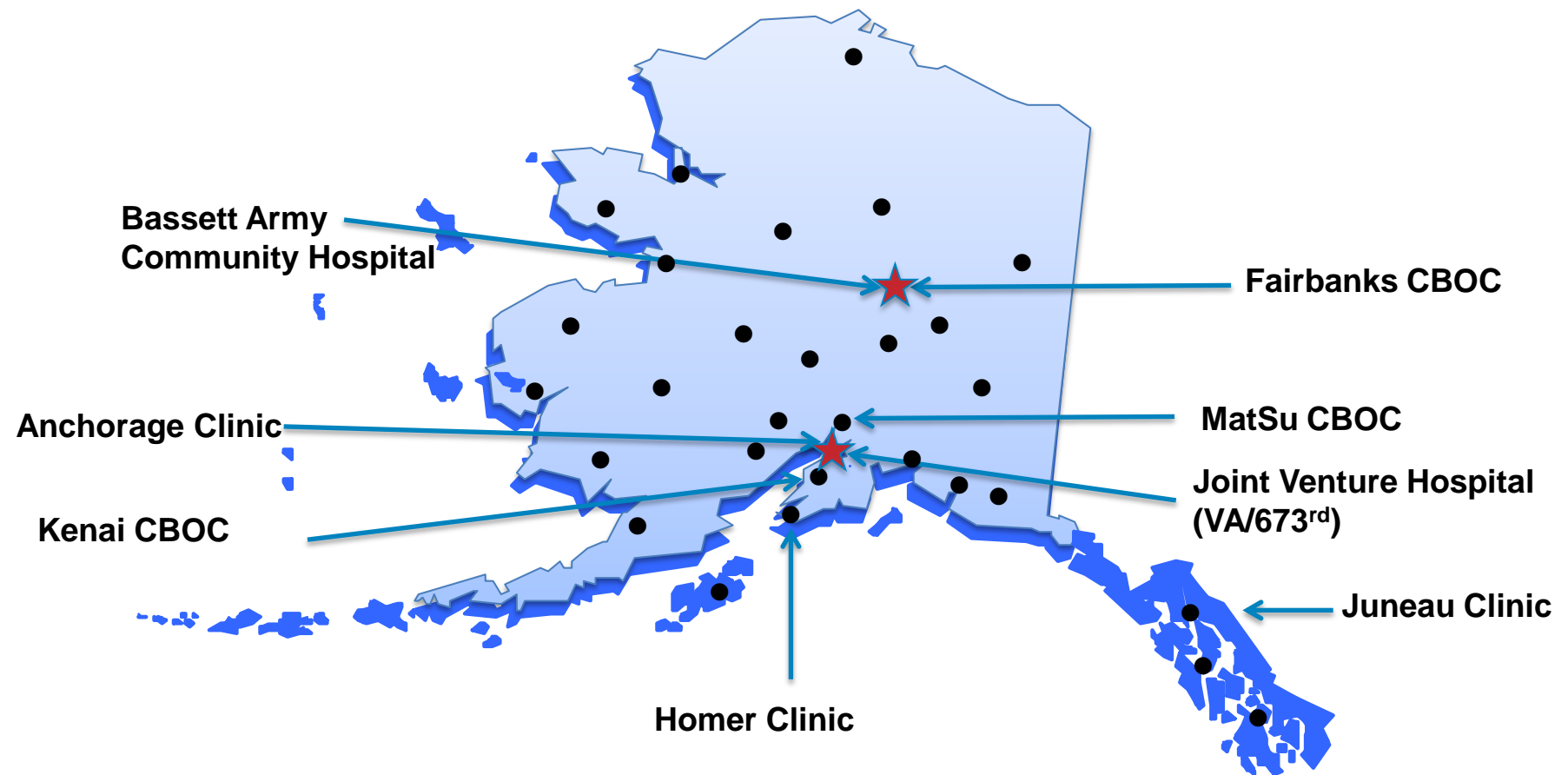
VA Healthcare Facilities in Alaska



VA and DoD Healthcare Facilities in Alaska

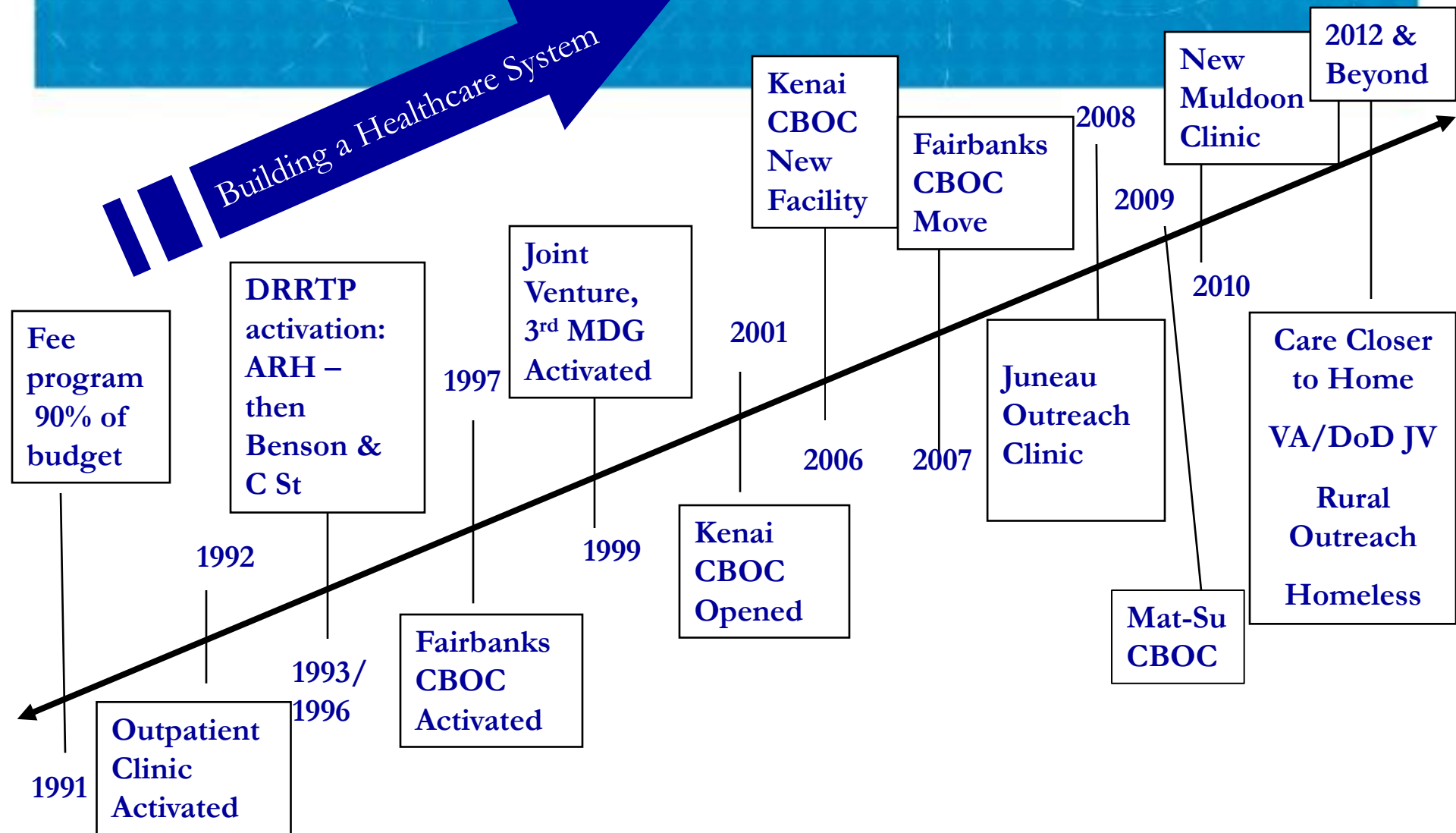


VA, DoD and the 26 Native Healthcare Organizations



AVAHS: The Journey

Building a Healthcare System



Sites of VA Care



**Anchorage VA Outpatient Clinic
Muldoon Clinic**



**VA/DOD Joint Venture Hospital
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson**



**Domiciliary Care for
Homeless Veterans**

VA Sites of Care, cont.

**Mat-Su VA
Community Based
Outpatient Clinic**



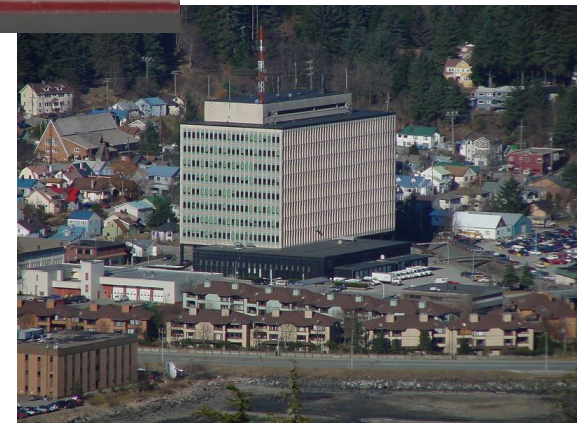
**Fairbanks VA
Community Based
Outpatient Clinic**



**Homer VA
Outreach
Clinic**



**Juneau VA
Outreach
Clinic**



Brief Overview of Joint Venture Relationship

- **The 673 MDG @ Elmendorf is an integrated DoD/VA jointly staffed federal facility**
 - **The 673 MDG Executive Committee governs joint venture issues**
 - JV Business Operations Committee plans & implements ongoing JV issues
 - **The Air Force manages the hospital**
 - The VA manages the ICU
 - **There is one standard of care**
 - **VA contributed \$11 million**
 - **Neither agency subsidizes the other**
- VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION



Alaska VHA Demographics

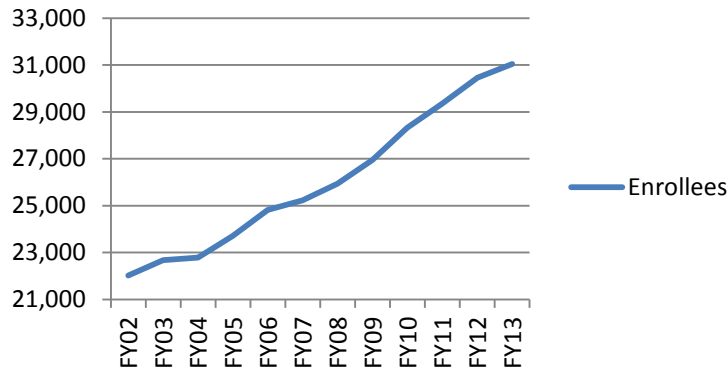
- **\$210 M Operating Budget for FY14**
- **541 FTEE**
- **Veteran Population** **74,732**
 - **Enrollees** **31,043**
 - **Unique Users** **17,812**
 - **VA Annual Clinic Visits** **172,352**
 - **40.1% AK Veteran Population enrolled – Market Penetration**

Alaska Veteran Population Distribution

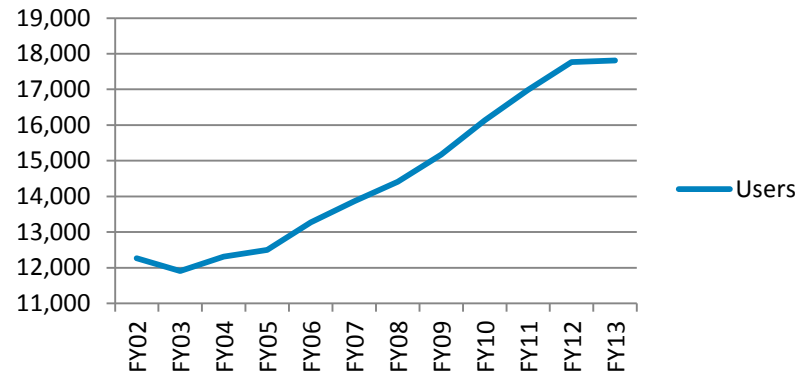
Region	Vet Pop	Enrollees	Users
Anchorage	30,706	14,622	8,622
Fairbanks	13,346	4,943	2,761
Mat-Su	10,815	4,968	3,098
Southeast	6,850	2,104	980
Kenai Peninsula	5,635	2,517	1,637
West/SW	3,274	883	289
Northern Alaska	1,574	263	88
Kodiak	1,394	372	147
Valdez/Cordova	1,138	371	190
	74,732	31,043	17,812

ALASKA VA WORKLOAD

Enrollees



Users



Enrollees increased from 22,021 in FY02 to 31,043 in FY13
Users increased from 12,262 in FY02 to 17,812 in FY13 which is a
41% increase in enrollees and 45% increase in users since FY02

Scope of Clinical Services

- **Primary Care to include Home Based Primary Care**
- **Lab/Radiology/Pharmacy/Dental**
- **Social and Behavioral Health Service**
- **Homeless Veterans Programs**
- **Limited Specialty Care**
- **Ambulatory Surgery**
- **Home Telehealth**
- **Rehabilitation Services**
- **Prosthetics (Durable Medical Equipment/Home Oxygen)**

Homeless Veterans Programs

- Outreach
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV)
- Compensated Work Therapy
- Compensated Work Therapy Transitional Housing Program
- Compensated Work Therapy Supported Employment
- HUD/VA Supported Housing
- Grant Per Diem Program (Anchorage/Fairbanks)
- Health Care for Re-entry Veterans/Veterans Justice Outreach
- Homeless Veterans Supported Employment Program
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program

****Main Phone number is 907-273-4000. ****





RURAL HEALTH CARE



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Rural Veteran Health Care Outreach

- Goal-Increase Benefits and Health Services to Underserved Rural Alaskans
- Strategies:
 - Sharing & Reimbursement Agreements
 - Agreements awarded 26 Native Health Organizations – over \$2.7M in care provided to 693 Veterans since signing the agreements in 2012
 - Native Health Organization Vendor Guide
 - Webinar developed presented/online
 - Ongoing statewide onsite Business Office training
 - Tribal Veteran Representative Program (TVR)
 - 213 TVRs trained
 - Increase Veteran enrollment - Contract with Jefferson Solutions /System Redesign
 - Tele-mental Health clinic at Southeast Regional Health Corporation and Mt. Edgecomb
- Future – Expand outreach to community and private sector



CARE CLOSER TO HOME INITIATIVE



Care Closer to Home Initiative

- **In May 2010, AVAHS began keeping Oncology care local**
 - 490 oncology patients stayed in AK thru December 2013
- **Three phased oncology approach**
 - Fee care
 - Contracting
 - Federal Oncology Center
- **Sec VA Visit in May 2011 resulted in Care Closer to Home being expanded to other specialty care in July 2011**

Care Closer to Home Initiative (cont.)

- **# of Veterans who elected care out of state:**
 - 2009: 591
 - 2010: 545
 - 2011: 336
 - 2012: 541
 - 2013: 388
 - 2014: 71 in the first quarter
- **Conversation occurs with Veteran**
 - Do they wish to remain local or be referred to tertiary facility in “lower-48”



Telehealth Program



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Telehealth Programs

- Active

- Home Telehealth
- Store & Forward
 - Teleretinal Imaging
 - Teledermatology Imaging
- Clinical Video Telehealth
 - Primary Care
 - Amputation
 - Diabetes Education
 - Endocrine
 - Hep C Education (group and individual)
 - Mental Health
 - Individual therapy
 - Individual therapy into the Home
 - Dual-diagnosis Group Therapy
 - Recovery Education Group Therapy
 - Social Work
 - PTSD Individual Therapy
 - PTSD Group Therapy

- In Development

- Audiology
- Sleep
- Nutrition
- C&P Mental Health
- Smoking Cessation



Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership

Advancing Healthcare



VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION



Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership

Advancing Healthcare

INITIATIVES

- **Federal Education Sharing Group – 4 offerings a year**
- **Emergency Planning**
- **GME – AK Psychiatry Residency Program**
- **Medical Oncology**
- **Pain Management**



QUESTIONS?

www.va.gov

or

www.alaska.va.gov

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ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Honoring and Serving Alaska Veterans

Ms. Susan M. Yeager, Director
Mr. Greg Puckett, Associate Director
Dr. Cynthia Joe, Chief of Staff

Dr. Linda Boyle, R.N., PhD, Associate Director for Nursing and Patient Services



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